Rescued is our favorite breed! Why, you ask? We love being able to help an animal in need, and we know you do too. Whether it’s the lost dog that wandered into your yard or the baby squirrel that fell out of the tree, we bet you find yourself wanting to help make things better for that animal, and stressing out when things aren’t going well. The Yolo County SPCA was founded back in 1974 by a group of people dedicated to improving the lives of animals in the Yolo County area, and nearly 38 years later, we still can’t get enough of those big wanting eyes and loving animal kisses. But why does helping a rescue animal make a difference?

According to statistics from the ASPCA website, only 20 to 30 percent of cats and dogs are adopted from shelters and rescues. The vast majority of pets are acquired from family members and friends, about a fourth of all dogs are bought from breeders, and 2 to 10 percent of cats and dogs are purchased at pet shops. What does this mean for Fido and Fluffy? Nothing good. It means that if the home they are in doesn’t work out for some reason (finances, apartment policies, moving, babies, not enough time) they may not get another chance. The Yolo County SPCA strives to change this by giving these animals a loving foster home and another opportunity to meet their perfect match.

We are lucky to be able to foster animals. In our homes they warm our hearts with their antics, and we can help learn their personalities well enough to know which ones need a 3 mile run each day, and which ones want to cuddle all the time. While there are still never enough homes or rescue groups to help all the animals out there in need of somewhere to go, having a whole network of different rescue groups to work closely with our shelters helps re-home as many animals as we can. Some rescue groups will specialize in bottle-feeding kittens, or in a specific breed like German Shorthair Pointers, while others take all breeds of dogs and cats in an effort to find them homes.

How does this relate to you, you ask? Next time you’re looking for a furry lifetime companion, check out petfinder.com. Petfinder is a website that lets you
Yolo County SPCA Mission:
To continuously improve the welfare of animals in the community through programs that promote the adoption of homeless animals into permanent, loving homes; humane education; spay/neutering; and the trapping, altering, and releasing of feral cats. Thanks to the contributions of our members, volunteers, and the public, we can create a more humane tomorrow.

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www.yolospca.org

Petfinder has recently been listed as one of the best ways to waste time at work- which we’re definitely not advocating, but it is a great way to see all the wonderful animals available near you.

Not in the market for a pet right now? Can’t adopt your own pet because they keep wandering into your yard and adopting you? That’s ok! Most local rescue groups (including the Yolo County SPCA) will have information on where to get a whole bunch of services for your current pet such as: low cost spay/neuter options, vaccinations, microchips, local training classes and more. Got all that taken care of? I bet a neighbor, friend, or family member could use some information on one of these things! Information is power, and the more our local community knows about helping animals in need, the better Yolo County is for animals. Maybe that just means helping your sister get her dog spayed, or showing a friend how to find a cat that meets her needs on Petfinder or at a local rescue group or shelter. Every little bit helps, and we at Yolo County SPCA know that you in our community all love to help and rescue too! Make rescued your favorite breed and help us care for Yolo County animals! -Jill Souza, YCSPCA Spay/Neuter/Community Cat Coordinator

Soap for Hope Proceeds Benefit Animal Rescue Groups
Carolyn Waggoner
1610 Colusa Avenue
Davis, CA 95616
(530) 758-4194
seawag@yahoo.com
Upcoming Events at the YCSPCA Thrift Store

On a sunny day in early June, 2008, we hosted our first annual festival fundraiser in the parking lot behind the YCSPCA Thrift Store. What started with a few merchant booths and a silent auction has now evolved into an all day event with fun for the whole family. The Fourth Annual Yolo County SPCA Fundraiser will be taking place on Saturday, August 11th and we would love for you to be there! Join us at the thrift store from 11am to 6pm for an array of activities. The silent auction will have lots of wonderful items donated from local businesses - come bid on a basket for yourself, or buy one as a gift! There will also be children’s activities! Bring your kids down to enter our coloring contest, get their faces painted, and play the bean bag toss to win a prize. For the adults, we’ll have a beer and wine garden where you can drink and watch live music - Noah Byrd, Dave Nettles, and The Mighty Murphys. Vibra Pet will have a booth with activities for your dogs, so please bring them along! When you’re finished visiting the local craft and merchant booths, come in to the store to receive a special discount! And a popular favorite from last year, the dunk tank, will be returning. Test your aim and dunk your favorite (or least favorite) thrift store employee. With so many exciting things to do, there’s no way you’ll want to miss this event, so don’t forget: SATURDAY, AUGUST 11th from 11am to 6pm for food, fun, and festivities!

Another event taking place in August is our e-waste collection event. Bring us your broken electronics on Saturday, August 25th from 9am to 1pm here at the thrift store. There are just a few things that we are unable to accept; no refrigerators, washers, dryers, or florescent bulbs please. Other than those exceptions, we will happily take your unwanted electronic waste and turn it into funding for our foster animals! If you are unable to make it on August 25th, you are welcome to drop off your items at the thrift store during regular donation hours.

Thanks for your support, and we look forward to seeing you on August 11th and August 25th!
- Jaci Inama, YCSPCA Thrift Store Assistant Manager

Bingo Benefits Yolo County SPCA

Supporters and friends of the YCSPCA are urged to play BINGO in a special benefit, with all proceeds going to the Yolo County SPCA. This special afternoon of Bingo is sponsored by the Davis Odd Fellows. Doors open at noon, and games begin at 1 p.m. on Sunday, December 9, at the Odd Fellows Hall, 415 Downtown Davis.

This is a fun and easy way to spend an afternoon with friends and family, and provide a direct financial benefit to the YCSPCA. The Davis Odd Fellows are licensed by the City of Davis to run real Bingo games, and prizes up to $250 per game are awarded. Players purchase their Bingo cards for $20 for the entire afternoon (there is also an economy pack available for $12). Only those 18 and older may attend Bingo at the Odd Fellows Lodge.

Fifteen different games of Bingo are played during the afternoon, which begins at 1 p.m. and ends around 4 p.m. In addition to Bingo, players may separately purchase instant cash winner pull tabs (for 50 cents each) and extra bonus sheets are available for $1 each. The Odd Fellows also run a snack bar with food, candy and soft drinks and specially brewed Odd Fellows beer. Coffee is available and free.

The more folks who come out to play Bingo on December 9, the more funds we will raise for the YCSPCA. Please note that ALL proceeds from the games go to us - so bring your friends, family and neighbors and enjoy a mellow afternoon of fun. You don’t have to be an experienced Bingo player to participate - each game is explained. Come out to play Bingo on December 9. Parking is plentiful and free on Sunday.
**In Memoriam**

Sixteen years of sweet love began December 26th, 1996. Priscilla was adorable and we were sold instantaneously. Little did we know that in 5 short months we’d be relocating to Italy for 3 years. Priscilla dealt well with the changes and even learned how to make the most of the upper terrace for hunting and catching insects.

We returned to California and in the process of moving into our new home, Priscilla disappeared. We thought she had somehow gotten outside and run off in fear until we discovered her inside a drawer in the laundry room. She had opened the lower cupboard and crawled up into it from the rear.

A few years later, when Priscilla began to lose weight, it was discovered she had Hyperthyroidism. After the radioactive iodine treatment, she returned to good health but always remained small.

7 years later we moved back to Italy! Priscilla was returning with us along with Rascal whom we had adopted a couple of years previous as a kitten. She enjoyed the past 4 and a half years with us and brought so much joy to us. On June 4th we had to say our tearful goodbyes and give her final kisses and love as her kidneys just couldn’t keep her healthy any more. Priscilla was an adoption success story and we were so very lucky to have her in our lives for 16 sweet years. Rest in Peace “Mama’s Kitty” We’ll Love you and miss you forever!

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**Hot Weather Facts for Fluffy and Fido**

As you sit in the easy chair with a glass of lemonade, think about what your pet needs to keep cool these summer months. July and August temperatures can make your pet uncomfortable at best, and be downright dangerous if the heat goes unabated. Sizzling temperatures can lead to heat stroke and even death. Please be aware of your pet’s needs and keep them cool.

All animals should always have access to water, especially when the temperature soars. A bowl of water is great, but setting out a small swimming pool or turning on the sprinklers and letting them romp around for a bit helps too. If you are taking your dog to a body of water, make sure it is shallow enough for their feet to touch bottom and supervise them at all times. Rinse your pet off with fresh water after a swim in a pool or river to wash off chlorine and bacteria.

Keep your pets inside when you are not home. Dogs and cats should have access to the inside when temperatures climb past 90 degrees. Make sure there is shade available when they are in the yard. Unsupervised dogs in the backyard can knock over a water bowl and get too hot without their owners knowing they are in danger.

If you feel your pet may be suffering from heat stroke, call a veterinarian immediately. Signs of heat stroke may include seizures, vomiting, difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling and complete collapse. Heat stroke is an emergency.

Toes and foot pads feel the heat, too! Consider investing in booties, or take your dog for walks during the cool early morning or late evenings.

The most tragic events occur when dogs and cats are left in hot cars. Cars left in the sun can reach temperatures that can kill within minutes. Please don’t leave your animal in a car, even for a few minutes. It’s best to leave your pets home during the summer months when you run errands.

Rabbits are especially vulnerable to the rise in mercury. Make sure the house is airconditioned, and consider freezing a milk carton filled with water and leaving it in the cage so they can rest against the cool container, or putting ceramic tiles in the freezer before putting them in the cage. Again, provide plenty of fresh water.

It may be tempting to shave the hair off of your dog, but the layers of dogs’ coats protect them from overheating. Brushing cats more often than usual can prevent problems caused by excessive heat. -Sharon Montooth, YCSPCA Employee
Kids Who Care

Nora Draper, Stella Maze, Tessa Mild and Natalie Thoe all turned 7 years old this May. They decided to celebrate together with one big party, and instead of presents they asked for donations for the Yolo County SPCA.

Nora has two rescue dogs, Bertie and Toby, and 5 chickens. Stella has one dog, Freya. Natalie has two dogs, Shiloh and Sara, a cat named Dexter, and Sunny, a Sun Conure.

When we asked the girls what their favorite things were they all answered, “Animals.” Stella also loves music, dogs and cats. Nora’s list included cats, chickens, dogs and her family. They would like to tell other kids that it feels really good to help the animals. Nora wants to remind everyone that there are lots of animals that need our help. Stella wants everyone to know that their dog Freya is a rescue dog and that she is really special. The animals of the Yolo County SPCA thank Nora, Stella, Tessa and Natalie for thinking of the animals on their birthday and asking for donations to help the animals in our community. - Shelley Bryant, YCSPCA President

Doggy Lifejackets

A dog with a life jacket? I know, you’re thinking that can’t possibly be necessary. Do they even make those? Before we adopted our water-loving dog, I was skeptical too.

Our dog loves the water so much, he will throw what can only be described as a doggie temper tantrum if not allowed to swim when he sees water. His screeching can be heard far and wide, sounds akin to being tormented, and we often receive funny looks when people hear his cries of frustration. The first time we took him to the ocean, he continually tried to charge the waves, barking in angst that he wasn’t able to actually swim. Though he is a strong swimmer, we didn’t let him off leash at the ocean for a long time, only in still bodies or safe bodies of water - however after one particularly animated swimming session in North Lake

Low Cost Spay/Neuter

Do you have a friend, neighbor, or co-worker who might need spay/neuter services for their pets? How about a stray or community cat in the yard that you aren’t sure is altered?

Yolo County SPCA can help! We can help get most animals fixed for just $10-$30, and also help with low cost vaccinations, testing, and microchipping.

Here are just a few of the options available:

1. SAAC (Sacramento Area Animal Coalition)- Must have a family income of less than 35k/year. Dog copay $15, cat copay $10. Fill out a voucher application at sacanimal.org.

2. Yolo County SPCA Transports for Cats- No income requirement, $20-35 for spay/neuter, $6-8 shots. Pickup at central locations in Davis and Woodland. Contact jill.ycpsca@yahoo.com or 530-902-6267 for information.

3. Sacramento SPCA Feral Cat Clinics- No income requirement, $15 spay or neuter with vaccines and advantage free. Clinics held at Sac SPCA on many Sundays. Contact feralcats@sspca.org or 916-504-2818.

For more information, please go to yolospca.org or contact Jill at jill.ycpsca@yahoo.com or 530-902-6267.
Tahoe which gave me cause for concern, we purchased a life jacket made especially for dogs. I now consider that purchase to be the best purchase I have ever made in my entire life. That may sound extreme, however after last summer it’s a statement I can make with conviction. We ventured to Bodega Bay for a weekend of camping, hiking, and fun. Though normally very cautious, I decided Saturday morning that it would be terrific to take our two dogs to a dog friendly beach.

Only Jack is our swimmer, so Bella, lest she be lost in her swift pursuit of the birds, remains on leash. I felt comfortable enough to let Jack happily run up and down the beach - he appeared to have learned what waves are, he has fantastic recall, and combined with the lure of his bright yellow “fling thing”, there should be no problem, right? Wrong. It took only one tragic second, when Jack veered a little too close to the ocean, and either did not heed or did not hear my recall, when a large wave came in, and swept him away. He disappeared instantly, behind a rock and in the ocean, I could no longer see him. My heart lurched; I dropped everything and ran to where I'd seen him disappear. I dove in instantly, and spotted him - struggling, but floating, on a churning wave. I swam in a little further, and was able to grab the large handle on the back of his life jacket. In that instant, the undertow came, and attempted to pull us both back.

Maintaining my grip on his life jacket, I threw both him and myself forward. I was flat on my stomach at that point, and I recall seeing nothing but the water and Jack, his little legs furiously pumping, his eyes full of fear. Another throw forward of the life jacket, a bit more swimming, and we were both out. Physically, while sopping wet, neither of us was worse for the wear. Emotionally, the memory of the near loss of my beloved dog remains ingrained forever. I am beyond doubt that without the life jacket, not only would I not be typing this story - he would not be curled up comfortably at my feet as I do so.

My hope is that this story will serve as an inspiration to anyone who allows their dog to swim, at the ocean or otherwise, that dogs can become fatigued, that not all bodies of water are safe, and that life jackets for dogs, truly do save lives. Please, if you have a dog that loves or even enjoys water (though I’ve not met a dog yet that loves it as much as Jack) or is around water at all, and you love your dog - purchase (and use) a life jacket. - Angela Murray, YCSPCA Volunteer

Upcoming Events!

Yolo County SPCA’s 4th Annual Fundraiser

Come join us at the Yolo County SPCA Thrift Store (920 Third Street, Davis) for our 4th Annual Fundraiser! On August 11th from 11am to 6pm, come enjoy food, vendors, entertainment, games, beer/wine, and a silent auction! Admission is free and items purchased at our event will help Yolo County SPCA animals in need.

Yolo County Fair

Yolo County SPCA will have a booth at the Yolo County Fair August 15th-19th. Come visit our booth to buy a stuffed animal or other Yolo County SPCA goodies, or just to say hello!

Free E-Waste Collection

Yolo County SPCA is holding e-waste collection events to benefit our animals. The official dates for drop off of electronic items at our Yolo County SPCA Thrift Store (920 Third Street, Davis) are August 25th and September 22 from 9am-1pm, but we are accepting damaged, broken, and unwanted electronics at other times too, and even do some pickups! Please give us your unwanted electronics- clean out your old stuff and help the animals at the same time!

Vaccine Clinic for Pets of the Homeless

August 15th, August 29, and September 12 from 1-3 pm at the Fellowship Hall at Davis Community Church (412 C Street, Davis). This vaccination clinic services healthy dogs and cats of homeless people. People can bring their pet to the Davis Community Church where they can get vaccinated, get a microchip, licensing, and get information on low cost spay/neuter options.

For more info on any of these events, please contact us at info@yolospca.org
What is a Feral Cat and What Should I Do?

We were recently contacted by a woman in West Sacramento who was desperately seeking a solution to her feral cat situation. Two years ago, a single female cat wandered onto her acre of property, and the woman began feeding her. Today, she is calling for assistance because she now has 11 adult cats and 18 kittens, all descendants of that one female cat. By 4 or 5 months of age, her kittens will be able to have kittens, and her adults may have 2-3 litters a year.

The female cat that originally came seemed to be feral. Feral cats typically stay away from people. They do not want to be touched or confined, and thrive in an outdoor environment, living usually in colonies with other feral cats. She could have been a stray, lost, or abandoned cat who, after being on her own outside without human contact, “wilded up,” and lost her memories of being tame and living with a family. Regardless, this cat was an unaltered female who began to have litters of kittens.

Both the woman’s and the cat’s stories are not uncommon in communities all over Yolo County. Fortunately, there is a humane solution that is effective, accessible to all, and financially feasible. In the past, the strategy of many was to round up feral cats and euthanize them in shelters. In the absence of those cats, though, people found new, unaltered cats would come. It was costly to house and euthanize all those cats, and control of the cat population was not achieved. Today, Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is a strategy many believe to be humane and effective in managing feral cat populations. All the cats in a colony are trapped and taken to feral cat clinics held almost weekly at the Sacramento SPCA. For $15, cats are altered, vaccinated, ear tipped to indicate they are altered feral cats, and flea treated. After a short recovery time, they are returned to their colonies, where they are fed by their feeder. With no breeding cats in the colony, and the tendency of colonies to chase out newcomers, the colony remains stable, and over time, disappears due to natural attrition.

If you have, or know of, a feral cat “situation,” you don’t need to call in an expert. YCSPCA has traps to lend, and plenty of advice and guidance to provide. We can even assist at times with trapping and transport of cats to and from the feral clinics. Empower and energize yourself by reading about Trap-Neuter-Return on the Alley Cat Allies website, at www.alleycat.org. Whether you have a backyard colony, or want to finally do something about a local colony, Trap Neuter Return can work for you to control the feral cat population humanely. - Sue Tabor, YCSPCA Board Member
YCSPCA Membership Application

I want to help the Yolo County SPCA save abused, injured, and abandoned animals.
I have enclosed my tax-deductible gift of: (Checks payable to Yolo County SPCA)

[ ] Senior/Student/Junior - $10
[ ] Individual - $15
[ ] Family - $25
[ ] Business - $50
[ ] Contribution Only - $____

Your Name: __________________________________  Phone: ________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: _______________________________________________________________
Email Address: _______________________________________________________________

Be sure to check out our website at yolospca.org for membership benefits or to sign up online!

Yolo County SPCA
P.O. Box 510
Davis, CA 95617

info@yolospca.org

Creating a More Humane Tomorrow!

Thank you for your continued support!